

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00192 100742 Z

11

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 SS-14 STR-08

CEA-02 DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /135 W
----- 018830

R 100715 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3365
INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 192

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD SF WA

SUBJ: RELAXATION OF SA IMPORT CONTROLS

REF: PRETORIA 0752

1. SUMMARY: ANNOUNCEMENT OF RELAXATION OF SAG IMPORT CONTROLS
SUMMARIZED REFTEL WAS RECEIVED WITH SCANT ENTHUSIASM BY CAPE
TOWN AREA IMPORTERS AND MERCHANTS, ALTHOUGH ANY INCREASE OF
SEVERELY RESTRICTED 1972 IMPORTS WAS OF COURSE WELCOMED. LITTLE
INCREASE IN VOLUME OF IMPORTS IN 1973 OF QUOTA- RESTRICTED GOODS
IS EXPECTED.

2. CAPE TOWN CHAMBER COMMERCE SECRETARY MACLEOD IN PRESS INTERVIEW
AND CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN OFFICER SAID THAT IMPORT QUOT
INCREASES IN MANY CASES WERE MORE APPARENT THAN REAL, INTER
ALIA CITING IMPORTANT GENERAL MERCHANDISE CATEGORY. INCREASE
ANNOUNCED BY SAG FOR 1973 TO 120 PERCENT OF 1972 QUOTA WHEN
RELATED TO 1969 ACTUAL IMPORTS (FORMER BASE) MEANS THAT
IMPORTER IS EVEN NOW TO BE ALLOWED ONLY TO IMPORT 60 PERCENT
OF 1969 LEVEL IN TERMS OF COST IN SA CURRENCY. WHEN RISE IN
OVERSEAS FOB PRICES, DEVALUATIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND
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REVALUATIONS IN SEVERAL MAJOR SOURCE COUNTRIES ABROAD ARE
TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, ACTUAL VOLUME OF GOODS WHICH CAN BE
IMPORTED IN 1973 WILL BE LITTLE GREATER THAN IN 1972 AND
FAR BELOW 1969 LEVELS.

3. MACLEOD ALSO CITED CLOTHING IMPORT CATEGORY, FAIRLY
IMPORTANT TO US. HERE SAG SETTING OF 1973 QUOTA AT 200 PERCENT
OF 1972 LEVEL MEANS THAT, IN VALUE TERMS, 1973 IMPORTS WILL
BE, AT BEST, 50 PERCENT BELOW 1969. IN VOLUME TERMS THEY
WILL BE EVEN LOWER.

O' NEILL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Event:
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: RELAXATION OF SA IMPORT CONTROLS
TAGS: ETRD, SF, WA
To: DURBAN
EB
JOHANNESBURG
PRETORIA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

